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THE SELECT SCHOOL,

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IN ONE ACT,

—BY—

F. J. STANTON,

With all the Stage Business carefully marked, Entrances and Exits,
and Cast of Characters, as first performed at Smyrna, N. Y.

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THE SELECT SCHOOL.

—o—

Cast of Characters as first produced at Smyrna, N. Y.

Mr. Stripes, (<i>a teacher from the North</i>).....	G. A. Munson.
Pompey Cuff,	J. W. Shepardson.
Cæsar Sneeze,	R. G. Wilcox.
Gumbo Bones,	C. W. Simons.
Cicero Squash,.....	F. J. Stanton.

Time of Representation—Thirty Minutes.

PROPERTIES.

Banjo, Clappers, Triangle, Tambourine, Stuffed Club, Ferule, Paper for Roll Call, Pencil, &c.; Modern Costume for Schoolmaster, for Negroes ridiculous.

812
S+26s

The Select School.

SCENE.—A common room, long table for desk, R.; with chairs for seats; stand L., for teacher's desk; blackboard C.

Stripes. (at desk as curtain rises—he begins to call the roll) Pomp-ey Cuff!

Pompey entering with banjo in hand as Stripes calls his name.

Pomp. Heah!

Stripes. (calling loud) Cæsar Sneeze!

(Cæsar heard without)

Stripes. Jumbo Bones!

Jumbo Enters same as Pompey, with triangle, followed by Cæsar with clappers.

Jumbo. Heah!

Stripes. Cicero Squash!

Cicero entering with tambourine, and laughing very hard, holding on to his sides.

Cicero. Heah!

Stripes. (angrily) Young man, what are you laughing at?

Cicero. Nuffin', only you know what an awful fat gal Chlo Tucker am?

Scholars. Yes!

Cicero. (laughing) Dat's all!

Stripes. (aside) I've got to keep on the right side of these fellows, so I will let him tell. (aloud) Mr. Squash if you have anything to say, tell us what you are laughing at. We all want to hear it.

Scholars. So we do!

Cicero. Well, you see Bill Johnson was dribing his big black pig down to Mose Smith's to hab him killed. (laughing) An' 'C'ldo was goin' along—(gesturing)—and when she got opposite ob Bill de

hog he gibs a grunt, an' afore Chlo knowed it— *laughing constantly*)
—de pig was up behind her, an' she turned a double summerset,
and struck right on top ob her head. Yah! Yah!

(scholars all laugh very boisterously)

Stripes. (*waiting until laughter subsides*) Now, boys, lets to business. Pompey, tell me where's Boston?

Pomp. Don't know, couldn't tell. Nebber's dar.

Stripes. Cæsar, where is Turkey?

Cæsar. (*who has been polishing clappers with bandanna*) Which one? I know of two.

Stripes. (*aside*) Ah! that's the kind! He's been to school.
(*aloud*) Well, you may tell where both are.

Cæsar. One ob 'em's down dar to Bones', an' de oder's up at Pomp's.

Stripes. Oh! dear! I thought you knew something! I meant Turkey in England and Turkey in Asia.

Cæsar. I didn't know anything about dem turkeys.

Stripes. (*laughing*) I see you didn't. Jumbo, where is St. Petersburg?

Jumbo. How in de debbil do I know! I gib it up!

(while Stripes asks Jumbo, Pomp leans over and whispers

Pomp. Ain't dis fine?

Cicero. Can't tell yet.

Stripes. (*beginning to get angry—aside*) Whoever saw such stupid fools? (*aloud*) Cicero, do you know anything?

Cicero. (*who has been expectantly waiting to be questioned*) Dat's a pretty question.

Stripes. Your companions do not; now if you do, tell me where is Snyder?

Cicero. (*cries and howls terribly*) Oh, oh!

Stripes. (*alarmed*) What's the matter, Cicero?

Cicero bellows the louder—Scholars all laughing loudly—Stripes leaves desk and goes over to pacify Cicero.

Stripes. What's the matter, my boy?

Cicero. (*crying still*) What did you want to exercise my feelin's foh, by askin' me dat question?

Stripes. What question? Why?

Cicero. Snyder was our poor old mule, he died las' week, an' if you want to know where he is, he's out dar in de swamp lot.

(cries loudly again)

Stripes. What fools! What fools! Here I am way down here from the north on a philanthropic errand, to teach you fellows something, but you're as full of the devil as an egg is full of meat!

During this speech by Stripes, Pompey, who has been sitting with his feet on table, tips too far back, loses his balance, and in order to save himself catches hold of Cæsar, who grabs Jumbo, who in turn seizes Cicero, Cicero grabs at table but does not reach it, and all go on to floor.

Stripes. (flourishing ferule) I'll see if I can't teach you something! Pompey, come here! (*Pompey goes to him*) What do you mean?

Pomp. I ain't said nuffin'.

Stripes. Who said you had? What did you tip over for?

Pomp. I guess de chair leg broke.

Stripes. I'll break your thick head. (*seizes stuffed club and strikes him*) Go to your seat!

While Stripes is holding conversation with Pompey, Cicero cautiously steals around behind him and pins a large placard, "For Sale," on his back, and cautiously works his way back to seat unobserved by Stripes. As soon as Pompey reaches his seat he spies the placard and bursts out laughing, Cicero motions for him to stop.

Stripes. What are you laughing at, sir?

Pompey. I didn't kno' dis was an auction.

(all laugh boisterously)

Stripes. (mistrusting, turns and sees edge of card) Who pinned that there? *(all silent)*

Stripes. Did you, Pomp?

Pomp. No sah!

Stripes. Did you, Cæsar?

Cæsar. No sah!

Stripes. Did you, Jumbo?

Jumbo. No sah!

Stripes. Did you, Cicero?

Cicero. (shaking his head, says) Yes—(very low)—sah!

(very loud)

Stripes. (thinking they all said no, says) Some one reached in the window, perhaps. (*tries to take card off, but cannot*) Cicero, please remove this!

Cicero. Yes sah, wid de greatest of pleasure.

(removes card and places a bent pin in Stripes's chair)

Stripes. (as Cicero goes to seat) Thank you, sir. (*resumes chair, but immediately jumps up, crying lustily*) What was that?

All. We didn't see nuffin'.

Stripes. Who put it there?

Pomp. I guess it was a wassup!

Jumbo. I guess it was bumble!

Cicero. I thought it was a fly!

Cæsar. Wasn't it a pin?

Stripes. Ha, ha! you rascal, you know it was a pin. Come here!

Cæsar. (*goes slowly, Cicero can hardly contain himself*) I didn't do it. Wasn't it de fellow fru de winder?

Stripes. Yes, very likely! (*beats him with club*) Go to your seat! (*Cæsar resumes seat*)

Stripes. What do you fellows come here for? (*pause*)

Pomp. I cum for fun. (*pause*)

Cæsar. I cum to play.

Jumbo. (*quickly*) So did I. (*pause*)

Stripes. What did you come for, Cicero?

Cicero. (*who has been fooling with tambourine*) Me?

Stripes. Yes, you!

Cicero. De oder boys come to play and hab some fun, and— (*grinning*)—I guess I mus' a cum to see de gals. Didn't I?

Stripes. You'd all better go home and stay there. I'm going.

(*exit—all start but Cicero*)

Cicero. Hol' on, boys, de boss has gone, let's hab some fun. What d'ye say?

All. All right. But what shall we do to hab some fun?

Cicero. Let's hab a little song, an' wake up de naborhood. You fellows get ready an' I'll fix t'ings.

(*fixes chairs front of stage, c.*)

Cicero. All right, boys.

(*each takes places. Music and "Camptown Races."*)

CURTAIN.

↔ The Little Wife. ↔

A Comedy Drama in 4 acts, by A. Z. Chipman, for 6 male and 3 female characters. Costumes modern. Time of playing, 1 hour and 40 minutes.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

BOB QUICK,	A. U. S. S. S. D.
JOE CLAYTON,	A farmer lad.
COUNCELLOR GORMAN,	A trickster.
INJUN JOHN,	The doctor.
COL. MATTERSON,	Vida's father.
BUBBLES,	Colored servant.
ESTELLE ADAIR,	Under a cloud.
VIDA,	A child martyr.
MADELINE ADAIR,	Adventuress.

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS.

ACT I.—Sunset Park—Waiting for the mail—Gorman starts his little scheme—Joe takes a hand—Vida surprised—The song and the echo—A mother's grave—Bob Quick with a bundle so thick—Vida and Joe talk business—A contemptible plot—The two daughters—Vida's eyes are opened—"I may be small, but I am still on earth!"—Crushed roses—"I must be first choice in your heart or none!"

ACT II.—Two weeks supposed to have elapsed—Colonel Matterson's Library, St. George Hotel—Another scandal—Bob tries to fascinate Vida—A busted scheme—Gorman returns—Writing a letter at the wrong time—Two eyes watching—Vida's little trick—The wedding gift torn to pieces—"A father who is robbing his own child!"

ACT III.—Mountainside farm, Joe's home—Vida turns cook—Coffee for three—Pepper and spaulding's glue—The visitors—"I've loved, only to be knocked out"—"I don't care if a grist-mill busts!"—Knife and fork serenade—Gorman and his umbrella—"There is the check and there is the door!"

ACT IV.—Madeline Adair's private parlor, St. George hotel—Five hours supposed to have elapsed—Madeline is resolved—Quick tries to reason—Shut off by the size of his foot—Estelle does not succeed in her good intentions—Arrival of Injun John—Vida and John to the rescue—Arrest of Gorman—A united family.

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FARCES & COMEDIETTAS

